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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/536,886	06/01/2005	Koshi Yamaguchi	12088/033001	8330
22511	7590	02/08/2007	EXAMINER	
OSHA LIANG L.L.P. 1221 MCKINNEY STREET SUITE 2800 HOUSTON, TX 77010			JACKSON, ANDRE L	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3677	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE		
2 MONTHS	02/08/2007	PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/536,886	YAMAGUCHI, KOSHI
Examiner	Art Unit	
Andre' L. Jackson	3677	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 June 2005.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 01 June 2005 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6/1/2005</u> | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because of the following grammatical error(s). In line 4 of the abstract, after the word "part" change "sof" to read -- of --. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Objections

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities:
In line 26, after "contacted with", the claim recites the limitation "**the end face**". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Appropriate correction is required.

Regarding claim 1, the phrase "**whose axes**" in line 8 renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether which element or elements define an axis. More specifically, it is unclear to one of ordinary skill in the art if applicant intends to defined an axis for the first cylindrical part and an axis for the second cylindrical part only or an axis for the metal-made hinge pin and an axis or axes for either or both of the first and second cylindrical parts. Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-16 are believed to be allowable over the prior art made of record.

As allowable subject matter has been indicated, applicant's reply must either comply with all formal requirements or specifically traverse each requirement not complied with. See 37 CFR 1.111(b) and MPEP § 707.07(a).

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:
The prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest every structural limitation as set forth in applicant's claims. In particular, the prior art fails to disclose a hinge including a first synthetic resin-made bush including an insertion cylindrical part inserted between an inner peripheral surface of a first cylindrical part and an outer peripheral surface of a hinge pin. A flange part formed on one end part of the insertion cylindrical part in such a manner as to project radially outward therefrom and contacted with an end face of the first cylindrical part. A protection cylindrical part extending in the same direction as the insertion cylindrical part from the flange part and externally inserted to an outer peripheral surface of the first cylindrical part and is integrally disposed at an outer peripheral part of the flange part. Further, a synthetic resin-made second bush, the second bush including a second protection cylindrical part and a second flange part integrally disposed at one end part of the second protection cylindrical part and projecting radially inward of the second protection cylindrical part. The second protection cylindrical part being externally inserted to an outer surface of a second cylindrical part and the second flange part being contacted with an end face of the second cylindrical part. Further, a first cutout part extending from one end face of the first protection cylindrical part toward the first flange part, the first cutout part allowing a first attachment plate part to be

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inserted therein and a second cutout part extending from one end face of the second protection cylindrical part toward the second flange part, the second cutout part allowing a second attachment plate part to be inserted therein.

None of the prior art references disclose or suggest the specific structural arrangement of first and second synthetic bush members or the arrangement of the synthetic bush members as claimed whether taken singly or used in combination thereof.

Conclusion

This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

Objection to applicant's abstract and objection to applicant's claim(s) as indicated above in this Action.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andre' L. Jackson whose telephone number is (571) 272-7067. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Fri. (10 am - 6:30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy J. Swann can be reached on (571) 272-7075. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

André L. Jackson
Patent Examiner
AU 3677

ALJ



ROBERT J. SANDY
PRIMARY EXAMINER